

Kentucky Arts Council
December 2, 2005 Board Meeting
Frazier Arms Museum
Louisville, Kentucky

Members Present: Bob Gable, Everett McCorvey, Stephanie Bateman, Nancy Cooper, Jean Dorton, Paul Fourshee, Todd Lowe, Jo Marshall, Ann Schell, Greg Shumate, Kathleen Smith, Retha Tarter, Jan Tunnell, Randall Vaughn, James Voyles

Members Absent: Kelly Knight

Others Present:

Staff: Lori Meadows, John Benjamin, Sandy Etherington, Bob Gates, Vallorie Henderson, Ed Lawrence, Amber Luallen, Melissa Nesselrode, Fran Redmon, Dan Strauss, Maraskeshia Walker
Commerce Cabinet Staff: George Ward, Secretary; Lindy Casebier, Director of Arts and Heritage

Guests: Trish Salerno, Cecelia Wooden, Maureen Mullinex, Paul Lenzi, Matilda Andrews, Penny Peevler, Paula Hale.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Chairman Gable welcomed all attendees including newly appointed Commerce Cabinet Secretary George Ward. Chairman Gable asked Fran Redmon to report on the health of staff member Beau Haddock; Ms. Redmon informed the board that Mr. Haddock is doing well and has returned to work.

QUORUM

With fifteen of the sixteen board members in attendance, the Chairman declared a quorum to be present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Gable announced that the Governor's Awards nominations were approved during the Executive Session. Chairman Gable also announced that the board unanimously approved the appointment of Lori Meadows as the new Executive Director of the Kentucky Arts Council effective December 2, 2005.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Todd Lowe noted the following corrections to the September 16, 2005 minutes: In the 'Call to Order' section of the minutes, Mr. Lowe asked that "Jefferson County" be removed to show only "the Cultural Blueprint" as the Cultural Blueprint involves a broader area than Jefferson County alone. *With this correction made, a motion was made by Jean Dorton to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2005 meeting, and seconded by Randall Vaughn. The motion passed without objection.*

COMMERCE CABINET REPORT

Chairman Gable asked Lindy Casebier to introduce Commerce Cabinet Secretary George Ward. Secretary Ward stated that it was a pleasure to be at the Kentucky Arts Council board meeting and congratulated Ms. Meadows on her new position as Executive Director. Mr. Ward then gave

a brief overview of his career and how he hopes to learn about and become more involved with the arts in Kentucky through the Kentucky Arts Council.

Chairman Gable introduced Cecelia Wooden from Arts Kentucky to discuss the “Action Alert” sent to the Arts Kentucky constituents concerning a \$1 million dollar increase requested for the Kentucky Arts Council budget. Ms Wooden distributed a report and explained to the board that the 1600 Arts Kentucky members were sent a letter asking for each individual to write a letter in support of the \$1 million dollar increase for the Kentucky Arts Council annual budget. Since the time of this request, 361 email responses and 161 mailed letters have been received. Copies of all letters will be sent to the Legislature and the Governor for review.

Kentucky Foundation for the Arts: Chairman Gable announced that Todd Lowe and Jean Dorton have been appointed to the Kentucky Foundation for the Arts board. Other board members are: Everett McCorvey, Bob Gable, Jan Tunnell and Ann Schell. Chairman Gable noted that the Foundation is still inactive.

Operating Support Task Force Committee: Chairman Gable asked Todd Lowe, Chairman of the Committee, to speak on the progress thus far. Mr. Lowe informed the board that a meeting of the committee would follow the day’s board meeting.

Transportation Public Art Project: Chairman Gable informed the board that he had written a letter to Secretary Robbie Rudolph of the Transportation Cabinet, requesting the completion of the Public Art Project. He asked that if funding for completion was not possible, a contract buyout with artists should be arranged. Chairman Gable requested that Secretary Ward follow up with Secretary Rudolph on the status of the Public Art Project.

Three year Trend Analysis: Chairman Gable noted that at the September 16, 2005 board meeting it was asked that Kentucky Arts Council staff put together a three-year trend analysis for the board meeting. Ms. Meadows informed the board that the trend analysis would be available at the March board meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Review of Abstentions: Chairman Gable asked the board to review the Abstentions list and to inform the Arts Council staff of any additions or deletions.

Grants & Programs: The grants listed on the consent agenda were presented for approval:

- Al Smith Fellowship Awards
- Teacher Initiated Project Grants
- ArtsStart! Grants
- Alternative Connections (YCIP) Grants

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Kathleen Smith and seconded by Paul Fourshee. The motion passed without objection.

GOVERNANCE PROCESS

Annual Report: Chairman Gable thanked Ed Lawrence for his great work on the draft of the Annual Report. Chairman Gable asked Mr. Lawrence if he could add to the “Ten-Year Funding History 1996-2005” on page 21 a new section called “Other Allocations” before the final version

was sent to the Governor. Chairman Gable explained that the new section “Other Allocations” would include all monies not accounted for under the original sections of Federal and State Allocations. Chairman Gable also requested that the date of the Annual Report be changed to “December 2, 2005” and change “Lori Meadows Interim Director” to “Lori Meadows Executive Director”. Todd Lowe recommended changes for the draft as well, which were discussed in detail with Mr. Lawrence.

A motion to approve the Annual Budget Report Draft was made by Kathleen Smith and seconded by Stephanie Bateman. The motion passed without objection.

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Chairman Gable requested Executive Director Lori Meadows to give the Executive Director’s Operational update. Ms. Meadows gave an update on the following items:

- The Request for Proposals for the E-Grant System has now been posted on the Finance Cabinet Website for vendors to submit bids to develop and implement an E-Grant system for the KAC.
- The Kentucky Arts Council, in association with Kentucky Alliance for Arts Education, will be hosting an “Arts in Education Forum” on December 9, 2005, at the Thomas D. Clark Center for History in Frankfort to discuss the Arts Education Survey findings. Kentucky Department of Education’s Commissioner Gene Wilhoit and Commerce Cabinet Director of Arts and Heritage Lindy Casebier will be in attendance at the forum. Registration forms were made available to the board.
- The Kentucky Arts Council will be developing and implementing the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Poetry Out Loud project. Each state is required to work with at least 10 high schools in the capitol city area. Frankfort has only four high schools in the area; therefore Kentucky’s project will be statewide. The Kentucky Arts Council has partnered with the Kentucky Alliance for Arts Education to work on the project. Each participating student will be involved in a poetry recitation contest. Kentucky Poet Laureate Sena Jeter Naslund will serve as one of the judges for the state poetry recitation competition. The winner of the state recitation will then go on to Washington D. C. for the national competition.
- The Kentucky Arts Council has also been asked to work in partnership with the NEA on the American Masterpieces Initiative. The Southern Arts Federation hopes to work with all of the states in the region on a collaborative project.
- The Governor’s Awards in the Arts ceremony will be held February 9th, 2006, in the Capital Rotunda. The luncheon will be held at Berry Hill Mansion in Frankfort.
- The Kentucky Arts Council will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary in 2006. Everett McCorvey asked Ms. Meadows if the Arts Council could add “40th Anniversary” to the stationery and/or newsletters. Ms. Meadows, with the help of Ed Lawrence, will look into those possible stationery changes.
- Ms. Meadows asked Fran Redmon, Program Director of the Kentucky Craft Marketing Program to speak about the upcoming Kentucky Crafted: The Market. Ms. Redmon gave an overview of the Market, and Market registration brochures were available for board members.

Boards Discussion on Ends:

Executive Director Lori Meadows opened the discussion of Ends Statement 1.1 “Kentuckians Value the Role of Arts in Society” by introducing Executive Director Paul Lenzi, and Grants Coordinator Matilda Andrews of Blue Apple Players; Paula Hale and Penny Peevler of the J.B. Speed Art Museum; and Learning Center Director Maureen Mullinex of Appalshop. The represented organizations have received Wallace Foundation Leadership and Excellence in Arts Participation grants for increasing participation, and they presented information about their work in this area.

Appalshop : Maureen Mullinex, Director of Learning

Ms. Mullinex explained to the board how partnerships are essential to obtain participation. Being a rural arts center, Appalshop facilitates partnerships, whether state or local, in order to deal with the challenges they face as a rural arts center. Working with schools and community centers in addition to other partners, Appalshop encourages arts participation at all levels. The Learning Center teaches young people that the arts build opportunities for exchange, learning and innovation.

Blue Apple Players: Paul Lenzi & Matilda Andrews

Mr. Lenzi explained to the board that one of the passions of Blue Apple Players is to reach underserved groups through the school systems. By working with the schools, children are able to see theatre that they would normally be unable to see. With the help of the START Building Participation Grant from the Kentucky Arts Council, Blue Apple Players were able to develop a survey for the children to fill out with their parents. The survey revealed that 78% of the children attending their productions have only seen theatre through a school-supported program. They also learned through the survey that parents were not open to taking their children to theatre because of their own lack of knowledge about theatre. Ms. Andrews also addressed the survey findings, and reported that they were able to calculate 2033 conversations about the arts between a parent and a child. That is a large step into bringing arts into the lives of the children, through their parents' participation. Blue Apple has expanded partnerships through Kentucky Opera and Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft.

Everett McCorvey asked Ms. Andrews if Blue Apple Players applies for NEA grants to help with funding. Ms. Andrews commented that they have applied to the NEA twice, but did not receive funding.

J. B. Speed Museum: Paula Hale and Penny Peevler

Ms. Hale addressed the significance of encouraging lifelong participation through families. The Speed recently performed a study on the reasons why families are not visiting the museum. In their findings they were able to learn the following from the parents: The parents are unfamiliar with the artwork; The parents did not want to look “stupid” in front of the children because of their lack of knowledge about artwork; The parents were not sure how to dress for the museum; The parents were afraid of small children touching the exhibits, running or being loud in the museum causing looks and stares from other patrons; The children not only wanted to see art, but make some as well.

To address these issues the Speed is working with the disinclined groups to become active participants. Once they participated at the museum, they were surprised by the collection and

wanted more information. The museum hopes to open participation opportunities to groups such as clubs, churches, institutions, community centers, libraries and more school systems. The Speed has also remodeled a small portion of the museum to house the new “Art Sparks” area for families. In this area the children are not only able to view art, but make some to take home as well. This opens participation at an early age.

The board considered the Ends Statement and the presentations by discussing three questions:

- A. What other information is needed for the board to have confidence it understands this issue?
- B. Does the policy need greater specification? (i.e. if the Board is not willing to accept “any reasonable interpretation” of the current language)
- C. Is the policy appropriately/adequately prioritized?

General discussion which followed:

- Jo Marshall felt the presentation by the guests was very thorough
- Paul Fourshee remarked that the presentation at this meeting, and attendance at grant panels demonstrates the progress the KAC is making.
- Greg Shumate feels the key role of the Kentucky Arts Council is to introduce people to the arts and draw them to stay. Mr. Shumate would like to know what the Kentucky Arts Council could do to introduce more people to the arts?
- Everett McCorvey remarked that the presentations are wonderful, and wondered if perhaps there is more we can do to enable artists stay to live and work in Kentucky.
- Jean Dorton feels Mr. Mc Corvey’s comment should be discussed in more length at the next board meeting in Paducah.
- Chairman Gable would like to see a trend report added to the 2006 Annual Report.

Board Schedule

Chairman Gable asked the board to please fill out the “Kentucky Arts Council Panel Sign Up Sheet” and return to the Arts Council staff.

Chairman Gable noted that the next board meeting March 24, 2006, is scheduled to be in Paducah. Chairman Gable asked the board to please review their calendars and let the Kentucky Arts Council staff know if they will be able to attend, and suggested that if there seems to be a small number of board members attending it might be in the best interests to look into changing the location. The June 2006 board meeting will take place in Frankfort.

Chairman Gable noted that we should receive word of the newly appointed board members on February 1, 2006.

Board Meeting Evaluation

At Chairman Gable’s request, Vice-Chairman Everett McCorvey led the board meeting evaluation discussion (see policy 4.1.6).

The board was in agreement that the meeting went very well, and the following comments were made:

- Jan Tunnell remarked that the meeting was excellent, and the presentations were a very positive component. She also stated that it was important to understand the impact of the education reform act.
- Retha Tarter noted that she appreciated the leadership of Bob Gable, and the work of the staff. She felt that the board was continuing to come together as a group.
- Ann Schell remarked that it was good to see first-hand the results of the Wallace Grant. She wondered what was being done to provide this type of information to other arts organizations. Ms. Meadows remarked that we are looking at several different components, including a meeting in the spring/summer to concentrate on the findings, and that the changes to the grant guidelines and applications serve as planning tools for our constituents in increasing participation.
- Greg Shumate stated that the committee structure in place is very good, and the Executive Director hiring committee went well. The process of allowing time to listen to presentations is very positive. One of our functions is advocacy and hearing real stories helps us advocate. When we speak with legislators we can give them real stories rather than statistics.
- Lindy Casebier encouraged the board to contact their legislators to let them know what the Council is accomplishing, and that we are seeking additional funding. This legislative session will be very competitive. He also reminded the board about the Arts license plate. We are still in need of more orders to make the license plate a reality, and applications can be accessed on the Commerce Cabinet website.
- Chairman Gable would like to see a section added to the Blue Moon Newsletter for a retrospective on one of our artists in each issue.

Announcements

Chairman Gable announced his resignation from the Kentucky Arts Council Board and stated that he had presented his letter of resignation to Governor Ernie Fletcher. Upon his resignation, effective at the close of today, December 2, 2005, Todd Lowe will assume the position of Kentucky Arts Council Board Chairman, as appointed by Governor Fletcher. Governor Fletcher has also appointed Phyllis Liebman as a board member to fulfill Bob Gable's board term. Chairman Gable stated that his reason for leaving his position as the Kentucky Arts Council board chairman are due to his company's (The Stearns Company) involvement in a Federal Lawsuit, which will require his full attention. Unfortunately, this will not allow him to fulfill his duties as the Kentucky Arts Council Chairman. Mr. Gable noted that he has enjoyed working with the board and staff.

Adjournment: 1:15pm